

Message Text

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21

ORIGIN ORM-02

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 DHA-02 SCA-01 VO-03 INSE-00 AID-05

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DRAFTED BY D/HA/ORM:JBROH-KAHN:MM

APPROVED BY D/HA/ORM:JLCARLIN

D/HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN

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R 032332Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL UDORN

UNCLAS STATE 026641

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, LA

SUBJECT: BENEFITS AVAILABLE TO LAO REFUGEES

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REF: A. UDORN 284 B. STATE 12010

1. RE QUERY REF A, LAO REFUGEES WHO OBTAIN CONDITIONAL ENTRY OR REGULAR IMMIGRANT VISA ARE ENTITLED TO SAME BENEFITS AS LAO PAROLED INTO US.
2. LAO REFUGEE IS DEFINED AS INDIVIDUAL WHO LEFT LAOS BECAUSE OF THREAT OF COMMUNIST DOMINATION AND HAS SINCE NOT BEEN FIRMLY RESETTLED IN ANY OTHER COUNTRY. LAO REFUGEE ALSO DEFINED AS CITIZEN OF LAOS ABROAD IN TEMPORARY STATUS AT TIME OF COMMUNIST TAKEOVER WHO CAN BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN STRANDED ABROAD AS RESULT OF THAT EVENT AND WHO HAS NOT SUBSEQUENTLY BEEN FIRMLY RESETTLED.
3. IF SUCH REFUGEES LACK FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION, ICEM IS AUTHORIZED TO MOVE THEM TO AIRPORT NEAREST SPONSOR'S RESIDENCE, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THEY ENTER US ON BASIS OF PA-

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ROLE LETTER OR IMMIGRANT VISA. EMBASSY MAY PROCEED TO AR-

RANGE TRANSPORTATION FOR SUCH REFUGEES WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM DEPARTMENT.

4. IF REFUGEES REQUIRE ASSISTANCE FROM VOLAG, THEY WILL BE ASSIGNED TO A VOLAG AND A RESETTLEMENT GRANT PAID THE VOLAG AS IN THE CASE OF OTHER LAO REFUGEES UNDER THE CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS WITH VOLAGS FOR THE LAO PROGRAM. IN CASE OF EACH FAMILY GROUP, POST SHOULD SUBMIT BRIEF REPORT SUPPORTING DETERMINATION THAT INDIVIDUALS ARE BONAFIDE LAO REFUGEES.

5. AS FOR BENEFITS UNDER 1975 INDOCHINESE MIGRATION AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE ACT MENTIONED REF B BILLS HAVE NOW BEEN INTRODUCED INTO BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS TO AMEND ACT TO INCLUDE LAO. UNTIL BOTH AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATION BILLS ARE AMENDED, HOWEVER, LAO WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER ACT. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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